

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No. 3694

Roberts et al.

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application Serial No. 09/508,923

Examiner: T. Vanoy

Filed: June 19, 2000

Title: METAL COMPOUNDS, MIXED OR SULPHATED, AS PHOSPHATE BINDERS

April 1, 2003

\* \* \* \* \*

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENTHon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to a telephonic conference with the Examiner on March 27, 2003, please amend the above identified application as follows herein.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 2, please delete lines 1-20.

Page 1, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 11 (added by the Amendment filed January 22, 2002) and substitute therefore the following new paragraph:

--In patients with kidney failure on haemodialysis (of whom there are 6,000,000 world wide), phosphate concentrations in the blood plasma can rise dramatically and such hyperphosphataemia can result in calcium phosphate deposition in soft tissue. Currently, the plasma phosphate levels are reduced by oral intake of inorganic and organic phosphate binders. The most common treatment in the UK is with aluminum hydroxide gel ("ALUDROX®" at 4 g/day) which forms an insoluble aluminum phosphate. However, this results in further toxic complications due to Al accumulation, eg reduction in haemoglobin production, impairment in natural repair and production of bone and possible impairment of neurological/cognitive function. Improvements in phosphate binding capacity as compared with aluminum hydroxide gel have been achieved with other aluminum compounds such as microcrystalline aluminum oxide hydroxide (boehmite) and certain hydrotalcites have been

#17/F  
4/13

P1

103

86